



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Sequoia and Kings Canyon  
National Parks

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## Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

**For Immediate Release:** December 22, 2011

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### Tips for a Winter Holiday Visit to Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Are you looking for a fun place to spend the day with family or friends during the winter holiday? Come and visit Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks! Due to very little snow, sightseeing is easy with no tire chains currently required. (*Note: Chains may be required at any time.*) Ranger-led programs, including General Grant Tree Walks in Kings Canyon National Park and Sherman Tree Talks, a Tokopah Falls Walk, and evening programs at Wuksachi Lodge in Sequoia National Park, provide opportunities to learn about the parks. While many developed areas are open, some roads and facilities are closed in winter. The road between Sequoia National Park and Kings Canyon National Parks is expected to close between Wuksachi Lodge and Montecito Sequoia Lodge from January 2, 2012, through April 1, 2012. (The road could close earlier depending upon snowfall, but visitors will still be able to access giant sequoia trees in either Sequoia or Kings Canyon National Parks during the closure.) However, the lack of snow in the most commonly-used developed areas of the parks means that popular winter holiday activities, such as **sledding, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing, are not possible at this time.** Please call 559-565-3341 for more information about weather and road conditions before planning a trip to the parks.

Friendly staff will be available in park visitor centers to assist you in plan your trip. Each visitor center offers information, exhibits, a bookstore, and restrooms. Hours of operation are listed below:

- Kings Canyon Visitor Center, Kings Canyon National Park - Open from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., daily
- Lodgepole Visitor Center - From December 24, 2011, through January 2, 2012, the Lodgepole Visitor Center will be open daily from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. After the holidays, through spring 2012, the Lodgepole Visitor Center will be open only on Sundays, Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Foothills Visitor Center - Open 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., daily

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## SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, which lie side-by-side in the southern Sierra Nevada in central California, serve as a prime example of nature's size, beauty, and diversity. With the world's largest trees (by volume), grand mountains, rugged foothills, deep canyons, vast caverns, and the highest point in the lower 48 states, it is a place that attracts 1.6 million visitors a year from across the U.S. and the world. Visitor activities vary by season and elevation. For more information, visit [www.nps.gov/seki](http://www.nps.gov/seki) or call 559-565-3341.